

CITY OF FRESNO
DISABILITY ADVISORY COMMISSION
City Hall, Second Floor – City Council Chambers

UNAPPROVED - MINUTES OF THE DECEMBER 13, 2010 MEETING

DAC Commission Members Present: Mary Beth Randall, Ron Sheppard, Rachelle Taylor (Chair), Carlos Duarte (*ex officio*)

DAC Secretary: Elizabeth Kunz, ADA Coordinator

Call to Order

Call to Order and self introductions were made.

Approval of Minutes

The DAC did not take action on this item as there was no quorum present.

Member Reports and Comments

Member Duarte spoke to the Public Awareness task force, but was advised by Secretary Kunz that this report was on the agenda.

Secretary's Report

Secretary Kunz reported upon the City Council's consideration of the amendment to the City's General Plan dealing with sidewalks in private gated communities [Policies E-1-a and E-1-o of the 2025 Fresno General Plan]. She indicated that the Council adopted the amendment reviewed and endorsed by the DAC, but the issue of sidewalks and streetwidths will likely be revisited as part of development of a new General Plan.

The meeting room is physically accessible. Services of an interpreter and additional accommodations such as assistive listening devices can be made available. Requests for accommodations should be made one week prior to the scheduled meeting. Please contact Elizabeth Kunz at 559-621-8716 (voice) 559-621-8721 (TTY) or Elizabeth.Kunz@Fresno.gov.

Unscheduled Communication

Kenneth Hamm, Director of Transportation, informed the Commission that the upcoming City Council Meeting [12-16-10] would include a hearing on proposed fare increases for both fixed route and Handyride Services. Director Hamm indicated that the hearing had been advertised in FAX facilities, buses and the local media. Director Hamm outlined the proposed fare increases for fixed route service, indicating that the fare for that service had not been adjusted in ten years. He then described the proposed increases for Handyride, noting that the fares had not been increased for over twenty years. Mr. Hamm described changes to the monthly passes offered by FAX, including increases in the cost of "special rider" passes, increase in the cost and a cap on the number of rides allowed for the Handyride Pass and elimination of the convenience pass.

Member Sheppard asked Director Hamm to comment on the discontinued fares. Director Hamm explained that the FAX was proposing to eliminate a number of fares that had not been offered in recent years, including the senior disabled day pass, or items like the "convenience pass" that had been effectively replaced by the "Metro Pass."

Presentation: ARC Fresno

Bruce Nieman, Director of Program Services for ARC Fresno, gave a short presentation of the services offered by that agency which is one of the largest local providers of services to individuals with developmental disabilities in Fresno, serving 550 consumers. The programs included the Fresno Production Center, Employment Plus, the Enrichment Center, the Blythe Training Center, the Community Integrated Program, Kerman Adult Day Program, Reedley Program, Independent Living Skills Program, and the Aktion Club, which is affiliated with Kiwanis service organization.

Chair Taylor asked how someone becomes a consumer of ARC Fresno. Mr. Nieman stated that in order for someone to become a consumer of

The meeting room is physically accessible. Services of an interpreter and additional accommodations such as assistive listening devices can be made available. Requests for accommodations should be made one week prior to the scheduled meeting. Please contact Elizabeth Kunz at 559-621-8716 (voice) 559-621-8721 (TTY) or Elizabeth.Kunz@Fresno.gov.

ARC Fresno, they need a case manager at the Central Valley Regional Center (CVRC) and to have a primary diagnosis of developmental disability. The CVRC will help to identify the best options for each consumer.

Member Duarte suggested that the ARC Consider obtaining Federal contracts for their employment programs. Mr. Nieman stated that they have some small Federal contracts including at AVCRAD [Aviation Classification Repair Activity Depot].

Member Sheppard asked if the Aktion Club offered by ARC was the same as the Mennonite Aktion Club. Mr. Nieman responded that the Mennonite Community operates a separate Aktion Club, but that the two clubs work together on many events.

Presentation: New Handyride Facility, Fresno Area Express

Greg Eisner, Support Services Manager, stated that the Transportation Department secured Proposition 1B funding to purchase a new facility for Handyride near Blackstone and Gettysburg. He outlined some of the advantages of the new site, including its central location, parking and easy access into the building. Mr. Eisner projected that the facility would be occupied by September of 2011. Mr. Paul Kwiatkowski, Manager, MV Transportation addressed the DAC, and provided more information on the history of the project and the new facility's advantages from an operational perspective.

Chair Taylor congratulated FAX on the acquisition.

Action Item: Formation of a Task Force to Review Selected Handyride Policies

The DAC did not take action on this item as there was no quorum present.

The meeting room is physically accessible. Services of an interpreter and additional accommodations such as assistive listening devices can be made available. Requests for accommodations should be made one week prior to the scheduled meeting. Please contact Elizabeth Kunz at 559-621-8716 (voice) 559-621-8721 (TTY) or Elizabeth.Kunz@Fresno.gov.

Action Item: Changing the 2011 DAC meeting time to the 3rd Tuesday of the month 10:00 am – 11:30 am or other alternate time.

The DAC did not take action on this item as there was no quorum present.

Report: Public Awareness Task Force

Member Duarte identified the members of the task force as Member Bronson, Secretary Kunz, Carol Zaun, and himself. Member Duarte said that the Task Force wanted to request that the Mayor's Office sponsor a "Look me in the eye" proclamation.

Member Duarte indicated that he had not, as yet, found funding to do a positive awareness campaign for people with disabilities with the message of "look me in the eye." He wants to do 15-30 second spots in the traditional media.

Member Sheppard asked if Member Duarte had used the list of grant opportunities at the CSUF reference library. Member Duarte indicated that he had not; Member Sheppard offered to provide additional information about the resource.

Chair Taylor asked if Member Duarte had contacted the Ad Council. She stated that they are a nonprofit organization that sponsors public awareness campaigns on radio.

Chair Taylor once again opened the floor to Unscheduled Communication.

Diana Kandarian addressed the DAC. She identified herself as a Handyride customer who has worked with the Fresno County In Home Supportive Services (IHSS) Advisory Committee. She spoke to the Handyride fare increases, and stated that \$60 was too much for a monthly pass.

The meeting room is physically accessible. Services of an interpreter and additional accommodations such as assistive listening devices can be made available. Requests for accommodations should be made one week prior to the scheduled meeting. Please contact Elizabeth Kunz at 559-621-8716 (voice) 559-621-8721 (TTY) or Elizabeth.Kunz@Fresno.gov.

Chair Taylor thanked Member Sheppard for his service to the DAC. Member Sheppard enjoined the Commission to continue its work on behalf of the community.

Adjournment

There being no further business to bring before the Commission, the hour of 6:25 p.m. having arrived and hearing no objection, Chair Taylor adjourned the meeting.

The meeting room is physically accessible. Services of an interpreter and additional accommodations such as assistive listening devices can be made available. Requests for accommodations should be made one week prior to the scheduled meeting. Please contact Elizabeth Kunz at 559-621-8716 (voice) 559-621-8721 (TTY) or Elizabeth.Kunz@Fresno.gov.